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## PRESS RELEASE

## Artwork wins Honey Grove fifth-grader Caribbean cruise

Jordan Gerling, 11, earns top honor in Adopt-A-Beach Children's Art Contest

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(AUSTIN, Texas) — Jordan Gerling, a fifth-grader from Honey Grove Elementary in Honey Grove is the grand prize winner of the 2014 Texas General Land Office Adopt-A-Beach Treasures of the Texas Coast Children's Art Contest.

Jordan's playful treasure map captures many elements that make the Texas coast great, including seafood, sailing, fun at the beach, a cruise ship and a treasure chest. Texas Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson selected Jordan's art from more than 4,100 entries submitted statewide.

"Jordan's included just about everything I love about the Texas coast," Patterson said. "This will look great on the cover of next year's calendar."

Jordan's image, along with 39 runners-up, will appear on the cover of the 2015 Adopt-A-Beach calendar. This year's runners-up include two sets of siblings — Trinity and Lynley Pace from Sugarland and Rachael and John Ward from Victoria. The annual competition encourages schoolchildren to learn more about the Texas coast and express what they've learned through their art. Open to grades K-6 across Texas, the contest motivates thousands of young artists each year.

Jordan's winning artwork earns him two round-trip, coach-class tickets from United Airlines to any United destination anywhere in North America, one 7-night Caribbean cruise from Royal Caribbean International departing out of Galveston, Miami or Ft. Lauderdale and a class party at Schlitterbahn Waterpark in New Braunfels. The grand prize winner's teacher, Ashley Price, also receives two round-trip, coach-class tickets from United Airlines and one 7-night Caribbean cruise courtesy of Royal Caribbean International.

Ten winners were chosen from each of four grade-level categories ( $K-2^{nd}$ ,  $3^{rd}-4^{th}$ ,  $5^{th}$  and  $6^{th}$ ) for a total of 40 winners. One grand prize winner was chosen from among the 40 finalists. All 40 winners receive a ticket to the Texas State Aquarium in Corpus Christi, two all-day passes to Schlitterbahn Waterpark in New Braunfels, a ticket to the permanent exhibit hall at the Houston Museum of Natural Science, a ticket to the

Houston Zoo, a certificate of recognition and prizes from the Texas General Land Office and a calendar displaying the winning artwork. This year's contest sponsors are Royal Caribbean International, United Airlines, Schlitterbahn Waterparks, the Texas State Aquarium, the Houston Museum of Natural Science and the Houston Zoo.

For more information on the Treasures of the Texas Coast Children's Art Contest, please contact the General Land Office at 1-877-TXCOAST or visit our website at <a href="https://www.texasadoptabeach.org">www.texasadoptabeach.org</a>.

## **2014 Treasures of the Texas Coast Art Contest Winners**

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Name	Age	City
Emily Chandler	10	Victoria
Edgar Cazares	14	Brownsville
Priscila Cobos	10	Mission
Kevin Corpuz	7	Victoria
Christian de los Santos	12	San Antonio
Ellie DiPaolo	11	Houston
Cray Dockery	10	Whitharral
Alison Duncan	11	Corpus Christi
Jude Fuselier	11	Orange
Jordan Gerling	11	Honey Grove
Mishika Govil	11	Flower Mound
Donovan Graves	11	Dallas
Tarini Gupta	7	Coppell
Reed Ingersoll	6	Houston
Wesley Kwan	7	Austin
James Langerman	11	McGregor
Ethan Lara	7	Victoria
Elaina Lee	10	Victoria
Kate Letsinger	9	Victoria
Fatima Lopez	9	Conroe
Lilly Loredo	10	Houston
Anthony J. Magaña	8	Houston
Hailly Malagarie	11	Lockhart
Miakoda Nutt	9	San Antonio
Katia Ospina	11	Arlington
Lynley Pace	9	Sugarland
Trinity Pace	11	Sugarland
Camryn Petru	9	Victoria
Genesis Pineda	8	Houston
Katie Saddler	11	Victoria
Leo Saenz	9	Driscoll
Ellie Salim	11	Friendswood
Gianna Scillieri	11	Friendswood
Dayne Seay	10	Orange
Isabella Segura	10	Driscoll
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Kaylen Smith	8	Victoria
Ivan Stover	8	Houston
Lauren Theriot	9	Victoria
John Ward	7	Victoria
Rachel Ward	12	Victoria
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